

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An input module, comprising:
2 a base;
3 a post disposed on the base; and
4 a touchpad movably disposed on the post,
5 perpendicular thereto.
- 1 2. The input module as claimed in claim 1, further
2 comprising a frame disposed on the base surrounding the
3 touchpad moving therein.
- 1 3. The input module as claimed in claim 1, further
2 comprising a scissors-type support mechanism disposed
3 between the base and the touchpad.
- 1 4. The input module as claimed in claim 1, wherein
2 the touchpad comprises a plurality of defined character
3 areas.
- 1 5. The input module as claimed in claim 4, wherein
2 the touchpad comprises a touch-sensitive defining the
3 character areas.
- 1 6. The input module as claimed in claim 5, wherein
2 the touch-sensitive input surface comprises a plurality
3 of alphanumeric character areas.
- 1 7. An operating method for an electronic device
2 with a monitor, comprising the steps of:
3 providing an input module having a base with a post
4 and a touchpad movably thereon, wherein the
5 touchpad comprises a touch-sensitive input

6 surface with a plurality of defined character
7 areas;
8 contacting the touchpad within a defined character
9 area; and
10 pressing the touchpad.